

AMENDMENTS OF THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 2, replace the paragraph beginning on line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

--As shown in Fig. 1, in the conventional IP address assignment system, the authentication server 25 has been used for automatically carrying out an assignment of an IP address to the user such as the subscriber terminal 21. The authentication server 25 controls the IP addresses to be assigned to the users such as the subscriber terminal 21 who makes a contract with each service provider contained in the remote access server 24. In this case, since the remote access server 24 and the second subscriber exchange 23 are linked by the UNI PRI, the service provider cannot be identified by a receive number on the same channel. Hence, the subscriber terminal 21 accesses to the authentication server 25 via the remote access server 24 to carry out an authentication process after the remote access server 24 allows the authentication server 25 to receive an authentication request sent from the subscriber terminal 21, and even when there is not enough IP address, that is, lacking in the IP address to be assigned to the subscriber terminal 21, a telephone call cost can be charged to the user.--